

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 OMB-01 H-01 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 /043 W

-----311831Z 070757 /46

R 302325Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1204

TREASURY WASHDC

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, MX

SUBJECT: LABOR SECRETARY OJEDA ON UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

1. SECRETARY OF LABOR PEDRO OJEDA PAULLADA SHED SOME LIGHT ON MEXICAN LEVELS OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT DURING A BREAKFAST FOR THE PRESS ON MARCH 23. OJEDA CLAIMED THAT 1.5 MILLION ARE PRESENTLY WITHOUT WORK AND 7 MILLION ARE UNDEREMPLOYED (OUT OF A 16 PLUS MILLION WORK FORCE). "WE NEED TO CREATE 4.2 MILLION JOBS DURING THE NEXT SIX YEARS, A TASK WHICH WILL NOT BE EASY."

2. OJEDA WENT ON TO SAY THE GOM WOULD ADJUST THE POLICY OF THE FONACOTT (THE NATIONAL FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT AND GUARANTEE OF WORKER CREDIT) TO PROVIDE WORKER CONSUMER CREDIT "FOR ONLY THOSE ARTICLES WHICH WORKERS REALLY NEED". (FONACOTT GENERAL DIRECTOR ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK THAT THE GOM HAD GUARANTEED 418,000 LOANS FOR A TOTAL OF 2,865 MILLION PESOS DURING THE PAST TWO YEAR PERIOD - 180 MILLION DOLLARS BY ROUGH CALCULATIONS.) HE ALSO SAID THE GOM HOPED TO EXPAND THE LIST OF 90 BASIC COMMODITIES ON WHICH THEY WERE EXERCISING A FORM OF PRICE CONTROLS.

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3. COMMENT: OJEDA'S ESTIMATE IS THE FIRST HIGH LEVEL AND OFFICIAL ADMISSION THAT HARD CORE UNEMPLOYMENT HAS REACHED THE NINE PERCENT LEVEL AND THAT AN ADDITIONAL 40 PERCENT OF THE WORK FORCE IS UNDEREMPLOYED. HIGH ESTIMATES ARE CONSTANTLY BANDIED ABOUT HERE BY THOSE WITH INTEREST IN THIS SOCIAL PROBLEM, BUT FEW REACH THE LEVEL

CLAIMED BY OJEDA. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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4. DURING A LUNCHEON ATTENDED BY THE CHARGE AND LABATT ON THE DAY FOLLOWING THE PRESS BREAKFAST, OJEDA REGISTERED LENGTHY CONCERN OVER THE UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM AND INDICATED HIS OPINION THAT IT WAS THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY OF HIS SECRETARIAT. HE OFFERED NO INSIGHT INTO GOM PLANS TO RELIEVE THE PROBLEM BUT ASSERTED THAT THEY WOULD NEED CONSIDERABLE OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE IN ATTACKING IT. WE INTERPRET THE LATTER REMARK TO BE A HINT FOR BI-LATERAL U.S. HELP. OJEDA DID NOT SPECIFY AND WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT HE MAY HAVE HAD IN MIND. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. THOMPSON.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMPLOYMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977037/aaaaafrl.tel
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 33d4bab9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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